



Attorney General Jon Bruning

NEWS RELEASE

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Note: A sound bite on this topic will be available shortly at: <http://www.ago.ne.gov>

AG Bruning: Health Care Challenge Heard in 11th Circuit

LINCOLN - Attorney General Jon Bruning commented today on oral arguments heard by an 11th Circuit Court three-judge panel from the bipartisan coalition of 2 state attorneys general and governors challenging the constitutionality of the federal health care law. AG Bruning attended today's hearing in Atlanta, Georgia where the states urged the Court to rule the entire law, known as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, unconstitutional.

"The judges were focused on the critical question as to whether the mandate unconstitutionally infringes on individual liberty," said Bruning. "I was proud to be there on behalf of all Nebraskans who believe Congressional power must be limited."

The States argued that requiring all Americans to obtain health care coverage is not within Congressional authority under the Commerce Clause. In addition, the federally-mandated expansion of state Medicaid programs, enacted under the guise of Congress' authority under the Spending Clause was unconstitutional. Because these provisions are vital components of the Act, the PPACA should be declared unconstitutional in its entirety.

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